

Resources for TSI Schools

Title	Source	Description
Building Rapport: Cultural Synchronization Questions	National Equity Project	One of the most important ways to build rapport with students is working toward <i>cultural synchronization</i> . Cultural synchronization refers to a shared, implicit understanding of communication and interaction styles, both verbal and nonverbal, between students and teachers of different cultural backgrounds that leads to increased trust, decreased frustration and improved learning opportunities. These questions serve as a starting point for working toward a deeper relationship on behalf of gaining a deep and holistic understanding of how a particular student is learning, thinking, and making decisions.
An Introduction to Culturally Responsive Teaching	Equity Alliance	
Inclusive Classroom Practices	Inclusive Classroom Practices	These practices can contribute to creating an inclusive educational environment. The resources on this website provide you with an explanation of each practice and some beginning ideas of how to enact the practice in your own work. Any practice enacted without reflection is unlikely to lead to inclusivity on its own. Be sure to check out some of the related inquiries and related learning library materials to support your own inquiry around a particular inclusive practice.
Three Tips to Make Any Lesson More Culturally Responsive	Zaretta Hammond	How do you actually make lessons culturally responsive? This article outlines three strategies for making lessons more culturally relevant in

		order to accelerate student learning.
Speak Out, Listen Up! Tools for using student perspectives and local data for school improvement	Institute of Education Sciences	This Equity Tool outlines three ways educators can engage with students on school-related topics or problems: analyzing surveys, fishbowl activities, and students studying students' stories.
Inclusive Education for Equity Professional Learning Module Presentation , Facilitator Guide , and Participant Handouts Presenter's Note and Handouts	Equity Alliance	Through professional learning model, participants will learn about, reflect upon, and discuss information about progress and setbacks made towards achieving educational systems that are truly inclusive. Participants will have the opportunity to apply what they have learned in an assessment of their own district's or school's progress to develop future goals.
Culturally Responsive Teaching School Walkthrough Guide	Dr. Zaretta Hammond	Culturally responsive teaching emphasizes cultural ways of learning and cognition rather than focusing on cosmetic "race related" displays. Affirmation of students' cultural roots comes through incorporating deep cultural values and cultural ways of learning (using the memory systems of the brain, organizing around social interaction (collectivism), and combining oratory skills with academic talk) rather than through superficial pictures of "heroes" or images of Africa or Mexico or irrelevant mentioning in the curriculum.
Taking the Pulse: Are my instructional materials and teaching practice working for my EL students?	English Learners Success Forum	Facilitating academic success for ELs can feel overwhelming without effective instructional materials and teacher guidance on ways to support these students to thrive emotionally, socially, and academically. The English Learners Success Forum (ELSF) wants to support

		educators in evaluating their instructional materials and teaching practices, designing their lessons and utilizing a variety of instructional strategies to help ELs be successful.
Guidelines for Improving English Language Arts Materials for English Learners	English Learners Success Forum	These Guidelines for Improving English Language Arts Materials for English Learners were developed to provide specific guidance to developers of English language arts (ELA) content on key areas of English language development that must be embedded across a curricula, in units, and in lessons so that English learner students (ELs) can access and engage in grade-level content.
Guidelines for Improving Math Materials for English Learners	English Learners Success Forum	These Guidelines for Improving Math Materials for English Learners were developed to provide specific guidance to developers of mathematics content on key areas of English language development that must be embedded across a curricula, in units, and in lessons so that English learner students (ELs) can access and engage in grade-level content.
Shadow a Student Workbook	Shadowastudent.org	Shadowing a student for a day can be a powerful way to learn what school feels like for a student—and to collect valuable information you can use to improve your students’ daily experience. The guide will walk you through how to plan your day, how to collect information as you shadow, and how to use what you learn to set meaningful goals for improving your students’ daily experiences.

<p>The Mindful Reflection Protocol: A Process for Checking Unconscious Bias</p>	<p>Dr. Zaretta Hammond, adapted from Dray and Wisneski, Mindful Reflection as a Process for Developing Culturally Responsive Practices</p>	<p>This protocol is designed to support teachers in a process of deep reflection that interrupts historically deficit views and responses to students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. When teachers act on automatic pilot or do not take the time to reflect, they may risk misinterpreting culture and language ability as disability. The hope is that the protocol will enable teachers to become aware of and recognize their own biases when interpreting behavior in the classroom so that they can be more culturally responsive.</p>
<p>Bias Toolkit</p>	<p>UnboundEd.org</p>	<p>Teachers' expectations for student success are clearly associated with how much students learn—but we saw that teachers of color who taught predominantly students of color had markedly higher expectations for their students than white teachers who taught students of color. That's a pattern that needs to be interrupted in order to give students equitable access to strong, challenging school experiences. UnboundEd's bias toolkit offers three session plans that will support you in leading conversations about bias and racialized expectations in your school.</p>